

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/612,645

Examiner

Victor K. Hwang

Applicant(s)

CONNELLY, ALBERT LOUIS

Art Unit

3764

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

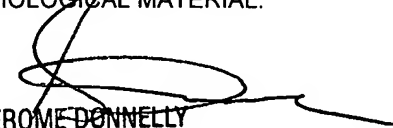
1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed June 30, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 9-12, 14-19, 21-34, 36-41, 43-54 and 56-65.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.


JEROME DONNELLY
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20060911.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jerry A. Miller on September 11, 2006.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

- A) Claim 10, line 4, replace "area" with --the--, and before "perimeter" insert --the--.
- B) Claim 16, line 12, before "attachment" insert --selective--.
- C) Claim 23, line 4, replace "area" with --the--, and before "perimeter" insert --the--.
- D) Claim 33, line 6, replace "area" with --the--, and before "perimeter" insert --the--.
- E) Claim 52, line 4, replace "area" with --the--, and before "perimeter" insert --the--.
- F) Claim 56, line 2, replace "a bar" with --an elongate bar--.
- G) Claim 56, line 8, replace "a sleeve handle having" with --a cylindrical sleeve handle having an outer surface adapted for grasping,--.
- H) Claim 57, line 1, replace "57" with --56--.
- I) Claim 57, lines 1-2, delete "wherein the sleeve handle has an outer surface, and".
- J) Claim 58, line 1, replace "57" with --56--.
- K) Claim 59, line 1, replace "57" with --56--.

- L) Claim 63, line 4, replace "area" with --the--, and before "perimeter" insert --the--.

Drawings

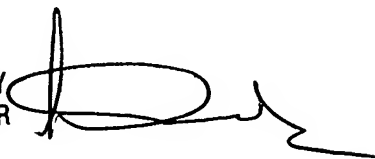
3. The drawings were received on September 11, 2006 with a time stamp of 14:11:07.

These drawings are acceptable.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: With regard to claims 1 and 46, the prior art does not disclose or make obvious a gripping plate comprising a variable diameter gripping plate having first and second opposed offset spiral segments defining a portion of a perimeter. With regard to claim 16, the prior art does not disclose or make obvious a means, situated adjacent the second end of the bar for selective attachment of either the gripping plate or the sleeve to the bar. With regard to claim 56, the prior art does not disclose or make obvious the bar as an elongate bar, the sleeve being a cylindrical with an outer surface adapted for grasping, the sleeve having a central bore that permits the sleeve to slide over the bar, and pin passing through a hole in the bar and an aperture in the sleeve to secure the sleeve handle to the bar.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

JEROME DONNELLY
PRIMARY EXAMINER



5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Victor K. Hwang whose telephone number is (571) 272-4976. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM Eastern time.

The facsimile number for submitting papers directly to the examiner for informal correspondence is (571) 273-4976. The facsimile number for submitting all formal correspondence is (571) 273-8300.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory L. Huson can be reached on (571) 272-4887.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Victor K. Hwang
September 11, 2006

JEROME DONNELLY
PRIMARY EXAMINER

